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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/810,550	03/29/2004	Nobuko Yamamoto	00862.023526.	1679

5514 7590 05/26/2010  
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO  
1290 Avenue of the Americas  
NEW YORK, NY 10104-3800

EXAMINER
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JOHANNSEN, DIANA B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1634

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/26/2010

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/810,550	<b>Applicant(s)</b> YAMAMOTO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Diana B. Johannsen	<b>Art Unit</b> 1634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 March 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-7, 50 and 51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6, 50 and 51 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                       | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1209:0210</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

***Election/Restrictions***

1. This action is responsive to the Amendment filed March 16, 2010, in which claims 4-5 were amended, claims 1-3 and 8-49 were canceled, and claims 50-51 were added. Of the pending claims 4-7 and 50-51, claim 7 remains withdrawn, while claims 4-6 and 50-51 correspond to the subject matter of originally elected Group I. However, it is noted that in the Election/Restriction requirement of October 3, 2007, applicant was required to elect a single probe or single probe combination encompassed by Group I for examination. In response, applicant elected SEQ ID NO: 1 without traverse (see the response of November 2, 2007), and applicant has subsequently received multiple actions on the merits directed to this elected invention. The Amendment of March 16, 2010 is thus non-responsive in that it includes no claims directed to the elected invention (rather, the pending claims are each directed to various combinations that include SEQ ID NO: 1). However, as a courtesy to applicant, and because the claims each continue to recite the elected SEQ ID NO: 1, the various combinations requiring elected SEQ ID NO: 1 will be considered separate species of the elected invention for purposes of further examination. In response to this communication, Applicant should therefore elect a species in accordance with the requirement below.

2. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: each combination of SEQ ID NO: 1 plus one of SEQ ID NOS 2-14 (as recited in claims 4-5) and the combination of SEQ ID NOS 1-14 (as set forth in claim 50). The species are independent or distinct because the claims to the different species recite the mutually exclusive characteristics of such species, particularly, each of SEQ ID NOS

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2-14 and the combination thereof are each characterized by different sequences/structures and different functional characteristics. In addition, these species are not obvious variants of each other based on the current record.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, or a single grouping of patentably indistinct species, for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 4-5 are considered to be Markush-type generic claims.

There is a search and/or examination burden for the patentably distinct species as set forth above because at least the following reason(s) apply:

Each species requires different search strategies and queries (and the consideration of different prior references).

**Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or a grouping of patentably indistinct species to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected species or grouping of patentably indistinct species**, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

The election may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the election of species requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse. Traversal must be presented at the time

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of election in order to be considered timely. Failure to timely traverse the requirement will result in the loss of right to petition under 37 CFR 1.144. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable on the elected species or grouping of patentably indistinct species.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species, or groupings of patentably indistinct species from which election is required, are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing them to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the species unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other species.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

#### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

3. The information disclosure statements filed December 30, 2009 and February 11, 2010 each fail to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because they include documents in a foreign language for which no translation and/or explanation of relevance has been provided. Accordingly, the cited foreign language documents have not been considered. However, it is noted that applicant may chose to provide such translations/explanations in response to this communication.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Diana B. Johannsen whose telephone number is 571/272-0744. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-2:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Nguyen can be reached at 571/272-0731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Diana B. Johannsen/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1634